



## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 1981  
TO: Division File ✓  
FROM: Tom Powell - Southern Region  
SUBJECT: Crawford County - General - Robinson/Briggs Manufacturing

On July 17, 1981, I was in Robinson, Illinois to investigate a P.C.B. incident at the Briggs Manufacturing facility. In an attempt to determine the severity of contamination, I obtained three (3) surface soil samples. The area of contamination was located behind the plant, adjacent to a fence row where weeds were growing wildly. In order to control the growth of the unwanted vegetation, two (2) employees were sent out with a hand sprayer to spray the area with Pyronal.

The spraying took place over a two (2) day period. The first spraying occurred on June 17, 1981 and lasted for one (1) hour. The second spraying occurred on June 18, 1981 and lasted for forty-five (45) minutes to one (1) hour. It was at this time that the company realized the material the employees were using contained P.C.B.'s. According to Betty Wright, the industrial relations spokesperson, the employees were immediately stripped of their clothing, washed down thoroughly, and then taken to Dr. Michael Elliot, the company doctor, for follow-up action and observations.

Ms. Wright estimates that approximately one (1) gallon of Pyronal was used to kill the weeds.

The degree of contamination will not be known until the results of the soil samples are completed. At that time an assessment of the situation will be made to see if any excavation will be required.

TEP:jlr

cc: Southern Region  
Bill Child  
John Renkes

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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RECEIVED

JUL 28 1981

E.P.A. — U.L.P.C.  
STATE OF ILLINOIS